



**Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona**

PRESS RELEASE

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Animal Rights Activists Sentenced for Interfering with Mountain Lion Hunt

PHOENIX –The U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, announced that on August 7, 2006, defendants Rodney Coronado of Tucson was sentenced to eight months imprisonment plus three years supervised release and Matthew Crozier of Sedona was sentenced to three years probation, plus 100 hours of community service by United States District Judge David C. Bury, in Tucson.

Coronado, Crozier and Esquire Magazine Reporter John Richardson, from New York were arrested in March, 2004 for interfering with the mountain lion hunt in the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area. The park was closed due to concerns that mountain lions, who lost their fear of humans, might attack, injure or kill visitors to the canyon.

Defendants Coronado and Crozier were found guilty by a jury on December 13, 2005 of Conspiracy to Impede or Injure an Officer of the United States; Interfering with a U.S. Forest Service Officer and Aiding and Abetting Depredation of Government Property. Coronado is a self proclaimed member of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) and an advocate of the use of violence in connection with animal rights activism.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the U.S. Forest Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Arizona Game and Fish.

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